

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AF-08 DHA-02 NEA-10 ORM-02 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07

ACDA-07 MCT-01 INT-05 /115 W
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P 290018Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2052

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 3640

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, NZ

SUBJECT: PRE - 31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 220772, (B) STATE 220773, (C) STATE 239400

1. SUMMARY: DISCUSSION WITH MFA'S ACTING HEAD OF UN DIVISION HAS INDICATED THAT GNZ SHARES VIEWS QUITE SIMILAR TO USG'S ON MOST ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT 31ST UNGA. USUN DELEGATION CAN COUNT ON SUPPORT OF NEW ZEALAND DELEGATION, HEADED BY SIR KEITH HOLYOAKE, ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES MENTIONED REFTELS WITH BUT RARE EXCEPTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. REFERRING TO TALKING POINTS PROVIDED PARA 7 REFTEL A, POLITICAL OFFICER REVIEWED WITH MFA'S ACTING HEAD OF UNITED NATIONS DIVISION (ABSOLUM) USG'S POSITION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES EXPECTED TO ARISE AT 31ST UNGA. ABSOLUM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR REVIEW AND VOLUNTEERED STATEMENT OF GNZ'S POSITION ON NEARLY EVERY ISSUE. AS WE EXPECTED, ABSOLUM INDICATED GNZ UNDER MULDOON HAS ALMOST IDENTITY OF INTERESTS WITH US ON MOST MAJOR UNGA ISSUES.

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3. (A) SOUTHERN AFRICA. ABSOLUM SAID GNZ EXPECTS 31ST UNGA TO

BE "YEAR OF AFRICA" AND ANTICIPATES SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL BE COMINANT ISSUE OF SESSION. GNZ SHARES US HOPE THAT DIVISIVE DEBATES CAN BE AVOIDED. DELEGATION HEAD HOLYOAKE WILL STRONGLY CONDEMN APARTHEID TO COUNTER CRITICISM OF NEW ZEALAND MADE BY BLACK AFRICAN STATES IN OLYMPIC GAMES BOYCOTT. GNZ EXPECTS SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS TO BE OFFERED ON RHODESIA, NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, BUT WHETHER OR NOT THEY RECEIVE GNZ'S SUPPORT WILL DEPEND ON MODERATION OF THEIR WORKDING.

(B) ZIONISM/RACISM. PARTIAL DISAGREEMENT WITH USG VIEW. GNZ SEES RESOLUTION 3379 LINKING ZIONISM AND RACISM AS "ABERRATION" WHICH THEY WILL IGNORE IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM FOR DECADE. WHILE GNZ WILL SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REMOVE SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO ZIONISM FROM RESOLUTION, WILL VOTE AGAINST ANY RESOLUTION WHICH AGAIN LINKS ZIONISM TO RACISM AND WILL OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPTS TO EXCLUDE OR SUSPEND ISRAEL, FAILURE TO PREVAIL ON ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE WILL NOT CAUSE IT TO CEASE PARTICIPATION IN WHAT IT CONSIDERES IS CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM FOR DECADE.

(C) CYPRUS, NO OBSERVATIONS.

(D) WESTERN SAHARA. AGREES ENTIRELY WITH USG POSITION.

(E) UNRWA FINANCING. HIGHLY UNLIKELY GNZ WILL AGREE TO INCREASED CONTRIBUTION IN LIGHT OF SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AT HOME.

(F) INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE. WHILE GNZ OFFICIAL POSITION HAD NOT YET BEEN ADOPTED, ABSOLUM OFFERED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT UNDER MULDOON NEW ZEALAND LIKELY TO SHARE US VIEW ON IOPZ. ABSOLUM ADDED IT WAS CERTAIN IN ANY EVENT THAT GNZ WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PARTICIPATE, AS EITHER DRAFTER OR COSPONSOR, IN ANY PROPOSALS FOR PEACE ZONES OR NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONES AS IT HAD IN 30TH UNGA UNDER LABOUR GOVERNMENT.

(G) HUMAN RIGHTS. GNZ GREATLY CONCERNED WITH THIS ISSUE BUT REALISTICALLY DOES NOT EXPECT ANY ROOM FOR UNGA ACTIVITY THIS YEAR.

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(H) INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. SHARES USG'S DEEP CONCERN FOR EFFECTIVE MEASURES IN THIS AREA. PROBABILITY THAT SIR KEITH WILL MAKE REFERENCE TO NEED FOR ACTION TO COMBAT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN HIS GENERAL STATEMENT. ABSOLUM VOLUNTEERED THAT THE FRG HAS APPROACHED THEM CONCERNING THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES MEASURE, AND THE GNZ HAS INDICATED TO THE FRG ITS INTENTION TO SUPPORT.

(I) DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. GNZ SHARES USG'S DOUBTS AS TO THE VALUE OF EITHER SPECIAL SESSION OR WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. IF VOTES ARE THERE FOR CONVENING OF SPECIAL SESSION WITH OR WITHOUT NEW ZEALAND'S SUPPORT, HOWEVER, GNZ WILL LIKELY VOTE IN FAVOR.

(J) UNCTAD IV: COMMODITIES. LDCS PROBABLY TIRED OF TALK AND LOOKING FOR CONCRETE RESULTS. AUSTRALIANS THINK THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS AT 31ST UNGA IN THIS AREA HE SAID.

(K) UN BUDGET. GNZ WAS NOT AWARE OF 37 MILLION DOLLARS ADD-ON POSSIBILITY. GNZ WILL CERTAINLY SUPPORT ANY MOVE TO CONTROL UN COSTS AND ASSESSMENTS.

(L) UN RESTRUCTURING. GNZ DOES NOT HOLD VERY GREAT HOPES IN THIS AREA. DOES AGREE THAT AD HOC COMMITTEE'S MANDATE SHOULD BE CONTINUED HOWEVER.

(M) EXTERNAL EVALUATION MECHANISM. NO GNZ POSITION ON ISSUE OF RENEWING MANDATE OF JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (JIU). ABSOLUM OFFERED PERSONAL VIEW THAT IN SPITE OF LACK OF FAITH IN PAST WORK OF JIU, GNZ WOULD PROBABLY AGREE TO SUPPORT MANDATE RENEWAL. GNZ WOULD WELCOME ESTABLISHMENT OF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION MECHANISM BUT NOT SURE WHERE ITS DUTIES SHOULD BE ASSIGNED.

4. WHILE KEY POLITICAL ISSUES (REFTEL B) WERE NOT RAISED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, ABSOLUM DID MAKE PASSING REFERENCE TO PUERTO RICO ISSUE. HE SAID IT IS GNZ'S ASSESSMENT, SHARED BY THE AUSTRALIANS, THAT PUERTO RICO COULD YET BECOME CONTENTIOUS ISSUE AT UNGA PUSHED BY CUBANS. HOW THIS MIGHT OCCUR HE DID NOT SAY, BUT REMARKED THAT AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE US SHOULD BE ON THE ALERT FOR IT.

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